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CIA/DDO/TERR 75-02 SIGNIFICANT FEDAYEEN AND MAR 75
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SUPPLEMENT NO. 4

SIGNIFICANT FEDAYEEN AND FEDAYEEN-RELATED INTERNATIONAL TERRORIST INCIDENTS

1 JANUARY TO 31 MARCH 1975

12

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1 JANUARY TO 31 MARCH 1975

This chronology lists significant fedayeen and fedayeen-related international terrorist incidents and supplements the chronologies covering the period January 1970 through December 1974. This listing does not include routine fedayeen actions inside Israel.

CHANGES AND ADDITIONS TO PERMANENT CHRONOLOGY FOR
JANUARY 1970 TO DECEMBER 1974

8 May 1972	Israel, Lod Airport	<u>BSO Hijacks Sabena Plane.</u> Five BSO terrorists hijacked a Sabena plane, on the Vienna to Athens route, to Lod Airport. Israeli security forces killed three hijackers, and the passengers were freed. Five passengers were wounded in the gunfight and one later died. Life sentences were given to the two surviving hijackers.
30 May 1972	Israel, Lod Airport	<u>Lod Airport Massacre.</u> Japanese terrorists from the Red Army faction, collaborating with the PFLP, attacked passengers at Lod Airport, killing 28 and wounding 78. The lone Japanese survivor of the massacre was sentenced to life imprisonment.
5 September 1972	West Germany, Munich	<u>Munich Olympics Massacre.</u> BSO terrorists killed 11 members of the Israeli Olympic team at Munich. Five of the Arab gunmen were killed by police. The three BSO survivors were jailed to await trial, but several weeks later were released by two other Palestinians who hijacked a West German jetliner. All were flown to Libya and nothing has been heard of them since.

1 March 1973

Sudan,
Khartoum

BSO Seizes Saudi Arabian Embassy.

Eight BSO terrorists seized the Saudi Arabian Embassy in Khartoum as guests were departing from a reception. They held the new U.S. Ambassador to the Sudan and the departing Deputy Chief of Mission, the Belgian Charge, a Jordanian Charge, and the Saudi Arabian Ambassador as hostages. The U.S. Ambassador, the Deputy Chief of Mission and the Belgian Charge were assassinated the following day. After prolonged legal delays the eight BSO terrorists were sentenced to life imprisonment. President Numaryi reduced the sentence to seven years, and the terrorists were flown to Cairo on 25 June 1974 to serve the remainder of their terms. The Egyptian government, which has imprisoned the terrorists, has been under pressure to turn them over to the PLO but has not yet done so.

9 April 1973

Cyprus, Nicosia

BSO Teams Attack Israeli Ambassador's Residence and Plane.

Two teams of BSO terrorists attacked an El Al aircraft and the Israeli Ambassador's residence. One terrorist died from wounds, and the other seven were sentenced to seven years' imprisonment. On 6 December 1973 they were released and flown to Cairo, but later departed for an unspecified Arab country.

27 April 1973	Italy, Rome	<u>Italian Employee of El Al Killed.</u> An Italian employee of El Al Airlines was shot and killed in Rome by a Lebanese claiming to be a BSO operative. He was apprehended by Italian authorities. It is believed he was granted provisional liberty and probably quietly left Italy.
19 July 1973	Greece, Athens	<u>Attempted Attack on El Al Offices.</u> An armed fedayeen terrorist who attempted to break into the Athens office of the Israeli airline El Al seized hostages at a nearby hotel. He was later granted safe passage to Kuwait and left Kuwait for an undisclosed destination on 20 July.
20 July 1973	Netherlands, Amsterdam	<u>JAL Flight Seized by PFLP Terrorists.</u> A Japan Airlines flight from Paris to Anchorage, Alaska, was seized by four terrorists believed to be members of the PFLP. The aircraft was destroyed on 24 July in Benghazi, Libya, after being held for three days in Dubai. Reuters reported that the hijackers had been released and were at liberty in Damascus where they arrived on 13 August 1974. They were also reported to have traveled to Aden and Beirut.

21 July 1973

Norway,
Oslo

BSO Suspect Assassinated.

A Moroccan waiter resident in Norway was murdered by several persons alleged to be Israeli agents, in the belief that he was involved in a planned BSO operation in Norway. Six people, including two Israelis, were arrested and charged as accessories. Two of them said they belonged to an Israeli group fighting the BSO, according to police. Five of the six defendants, all of them Jewish, were sentenced to prison terms ranging from one to five and a half years. One Israeli was acquitted. In October 1974 two Israelis, after serving half their sentences, were expelled to Israel.

5 August 1973

Greece,
Athens

Fedayeen Attack Athens Airport Lounge.

Two fedayeen terrorists who initially identified themselves as BSO members attacked the crowded transit lounge of the Athens international airport with grenades and gunfire, killing five persons and injuring 55 others. Later the terrorists were identified as belonging to Ahmad Abd-al-Ghaffur's group of Fatah dissidents. They were sentenced to death by a Greek court on 23 January 1974. Their sentences were commuted to life imprisonment on 23 April 1974, and Greece expelled them on 5 May 1974 to Libya. The two gunmen were apparently freed, however, since one of them was with Abd-al-Ghaffur when he was killed in Beirut on 13 September 1974.

5 September 1973

Italy,
Ostia

BSO Commandos Arrested Near Airport.
A five-man BSO commando group in Ostia was arrested by Italian authorities, who said the group had concealed two Soviet-built SA-7 rocket launchers in an apartment near Fiumicino airport with the intention of shooting down an Israeli airliner. Two of the five fedayeen arrested were released on bail in late October and later flown to Libya. The other three were sentenced in February 1974 to five years and two months imprisonment but were granted provisional liberty on 28 February. It is assumed they quietly left Italy.

5-8 September
1973

France,
Paris

Saudi Arabian Embassy in Paris Seized.
Five fedayeen terrorists claiming to be members of the "Punishment Organization" shot their way into the Saudi Arabian Embassy in Paris and seized 13 of its staff as hostages. After negotiations, the terrorists released most of the prisoners and departed Paris with four hostages for an unknown destination. After a stop in Cairo, Egypt, the terrorists landed in Kuwait. They demanded another plane and flew to Saudi Arabia, decided not to land, and returned to Kuwait. On 8 September the terrorists surrendered to Kuwaiti authorities and handed over their hostages unharmed. In October the five had departed, possibly for Syria, to fight against Israel, according to press reports. The operation had been mounted by

Iraqi-based Fatah dissident leader Sabri al-Banna, who wanted to force the release of a Fatah official imprisoned in Jordan.

28-29 September
1973

Austria,
Marchegg

Sa'iqa Terrorists Seize Jewish Hostages.
Three Soviet Jewish emigres traveling to Vienna by train and an Austrian customs official were seized at Marchegg by two armed terrorists believed to be members of Sa'iqa. In return for the release of the hostages the Austrian government provided the terrorists with a plane, which after a circuitous route landed in Tripoli, Libya. The Austrians also agreed to close the Soviet Jewish emigrant transit camp at Schoenau castle. In December 1973 Libya announced that the two terrorists had been released to fight in the war against Israel.

25-28 November
1973

Lebanon,
Beirut

KLM Jet Hijacked.
Three armed hijackers who called themselves members of the Arab Youth Organization for the Liberation of Palestine hijacked an Amsterdam-to-Tokyo KLM 747 with 247 passengers aboard as it was flying from Beirut to New Delhi. After stops in Cyprus, Libya, Malta and Dubai, the hijackers surrendered to Dubai authorities, who offered the terrorists safe conduct in exchange for the hostages. On 8 December 1973 the hijackers were taken to Abu Dhabi where they presumably were turned over to the PLO.

17-18 December
1973

Italy
Greece

Terrorists Attack and Hijack Planes.

Five fedayeen terrorists opened fire in the customs area at Rome's Leonardo da Vinci (Fiumicino) Airport. The terrorists took several hostages, proceeded to a Pan Am 707 that was loading for a flight to Beirut, and threw hand grenades into the plane, killing and injuring numerous passengers. After the attack on the aircraft the terrorists, with their hostages, boarded and hijacked a Lufthansa aircraft. The plane landed at Athens and later proceeded to Kuwait, where the hijackers surrendered. On 2 March 1974 the terrorists were flown from Kuwait to Cairo where they were to be tried by the PLO, but Egyptian authorities did not release the group. On the demand of the four fedayeen who hijacked a British plane from Dubai to Tunis on 22 November 1974, the five Rome terrorists were flown to Tunis and on 7 December 1974 went to Libya with the hijackers and two other terrorists released by the Netherlands. Libya reportedly imprisoned all eleven, but later they appeared to be at liberty in Libya.

3 March 1974

Lebanon,
Beirut

British Airways Plane Hijacked.

A British Airways VC-10 with 102 persons aboard was hijacked by two armed terrorists soon after takeoff from Beirut airport, the only stop on a Bombay to London flight. The hijackers forced

the aircraft to land at Amsterdam. After allowing all passengers and crew members to flee, the terrorists destroyed the aircraft by using the plane's liquor supply to set it on fire. A group calling itself the Organization of Arab Nationalist Youth for the Liberation of Palestine claimed responsibility for the hijacking, according to press reports. They were sentenced to five years imprisonment on 6 June 1974. They were released on 24 November 1974 and flown to Tunis as part of an agreement reached with four terrorists who hijacked a BA plane at Dubai on 22 November. On 7 December the two terrorists went to Libya with the four hijackers who had demanded their release and five other terrorists released from Egypt. The two hijackers apparently are at liberty in Libya.

PERMANENT CHRONOLOGY FOR 1 JANUARY TO 31 MARCH 1975

13 January 1975

France, Paris

Attempted Attack on El Al Airliner at Orly Airport.

Two unidentified men fired two bazooka rounds, presumably at an El Al airliner, but missed the Israeli plane and damaged a Yugoslav plane parked nearby. The first bazooka round hit the fuselage of the Yugoslav airliner without exploding, slightly wounding a Yugoslav steward, a French security guard and a workman. The two men involved escaped immediately after the attack. An anonymous telephone caller told Reuters the attack was carried out by the Mohammed Boudia Commando, a fedayeen group. Mohammed Boudia, an Algerian exile, was a coordinator of fedayeen activities in Europe. He was killed by a car bomb explosion in France in July 1973.

19 January 1975

France, Paris

Second Unsuccessful Attack on El Al Airliner. Fedayeen guerrillas, claiming affiliation with the "Mohammed Boudia Commando" group, unsuccessfully attempted to shoot up an El Al jetliner at Orly Airport, seriously injuring eight persons as they fled from police gunfire. They held several hostages in an airport restroom while negotiating with French police and the Egyptian Ambassador to France. An Air France jet was put at their disposal, and after

flying over Europe and the Middle East for about 14 hours seeking a country that would accept the three guerrillas, the plane finally landed at Baghdad where the guerrillas gave themselves up to Iraqi officials, who had relented "on humanitarian grounds" and allowed the aircraft to make a final landing at Baghdad.

5 March 1975

Israel,
Tel Aviv

Fatah Attacks Hotel in Tel Aviv.
Eight Fatah guerrillas who landed from the sea seized the Savoy Hotel and held 10 hostages. The terrorists attempted to negotiate with the Israeli authorities with no success. Later Israeli forces stormed the hotel and seized the one remaining terrorist. In all, 18 persons were killed and several others wounded.